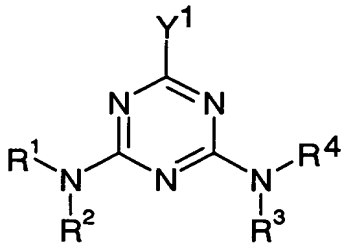
We claim:

1. A process for preparing alkoxycarbonylaminotriazines of the formula I



(I)

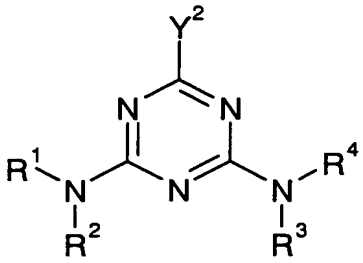
in which

Y^1 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, phenyl optionally substituted by C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or halogen, or a radical of the formula NR^5R^6 and

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently hydrogen or a radical of the formula COOX or X where X is C_1-C_{13}-alkyl whose carbon framework may be interrupted by 1 or 2 oxygen atoms in an ether function and/or be substituted by hydroxyl, or C_3-C_6-alkenyl,

with the proviso that at least one of the radicals R^1 to R^4 in formula I or, when Y^1 is NR^5R^6, at least one of the radicals R^1 to R^6 is COOX,

by reacting a triazine of the formula II



(II)

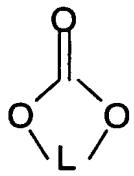
in which

Y^2 is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, amino or phenyl optionally substituted by C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or halogen, and

R^1 to R^4 are each as defined above,

with the proviso that, in formula II, when Y^2 is not amino, at least one of the radicals R^1 to R^4 is hydrogen,

with carbonic esters in the presence of an alcohol and of a base, which comprises reacting the triazine of the formula II with a cyclic carbonic ester of the formula III



(III)

in which

L is ethylene, 1,2- or 1,3-propylene, or 1,2-, 1,4-, 2,3-, or 1,3-butylene,

and also optionally with minor amounts of an acyclic carbonic ester of the formula IV

$$Z^1O\text{-}CO\text{-}OZ^2 \qquad \text{(IV)},$$

in which

Z^1 and Z^2 are each independently C_1-C_8-alkyl,

and a C_1-C_{13}-alkanol whose carbon framework may be interrupted by 1 or 2 oxygen atoms in an ether function and/or be substituted by hydroxyl, or a C_3-C_6-alkenol, in the presence of an alkali metal alkoxide or alkaline earth metal alkoxide as a base.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a C_1-C_{13}-alkanol is used.

3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base used is an alkali metal alkoxide.

4. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a cyclic carbonic ester of the formula III in which L is ethylene or 1,2-propylene is used.

5. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature of from 20 to 180°C.

6. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out with from 1 to 50 mol of alkanol, based in each case on one molar equivalent of amino groups in the triazine of the formula II.

7. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out with from 0.1 to 10 mol of cyclic carbonic ester, based in each case on one molar equivalent of amino groups in the triazine of the formula II.

8. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out with from 0.1 to 10 molar equivalents of alkali metal alkoxide or alkaline earth metal alkoxide, based in each case on one molar equivalent of amino groups in the triazine of the formula II.

9. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein triazine II and alkanol are initially charged and then, in any desired sequence, alkali metal alkoxide or alkaline earth metal alkoxide, in the solid state and/or dissolved in alkanol, and carbonic ester are metered in, and alkali metal alkoxide or alkaline earth metal alkoxide and carbonic ester can be metered in fully before the commencement of the reaction or partly before the commencement of the reaction and partly after the commencement of the reaction.

10. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein from 0 to 25 mol% of the cyclic carbonic esters of the formula III may be replaced by acyclic carbonic esters of the formula IV.